STARCH AND STRIPES

1961

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DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
CLASS OF 1961
PRESENTING . . .

STARCH AND STRIPES

dedication

In appreciation of her many years of leadership and devoted service we dedicate the 1961 Starch and Stripes to Miss Eleanor Lee.

Inspiring us to the high ideals fostered by the nursing profession and the honored traditions of our school, she has merited a warm place in our hearts.

eleanor lee
Associate Dean
(Nursing)

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the

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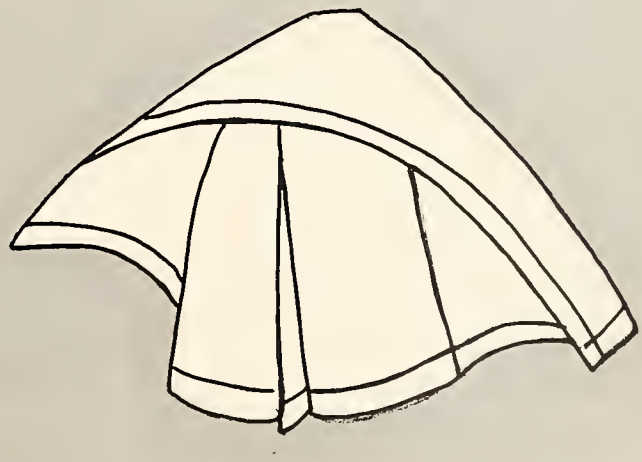
OUR CLASS ADVISER

ELIZABETH S. GILL
Assistant Professor of Nursing

In the years ahead we will often think of Miss Gill, not merely as our class adviser, but as a friend and counsellor who guided and supported us through the three years we have known her. We are grateful for her friendly smile and cheerful greeting that always buoyed up our spirits when needed most, her interest in each one of us personally, and her guiding reprimands. She joined in all our activities and undertakings and seemed to enjoy the fun and work as much as we did.

We can never really fully express our thanks to her for everything she has meant to us, but as we are leaving, we wish her the best of luck and success in her new position as Associate Dean (Nursing).

n the occasion of publicly accepting the symbols associated with the high ideals of the nursing profession, we by our signatures reaffirm our belief that honor - personal, professional and academic, is inherent in the responsibility we assume.



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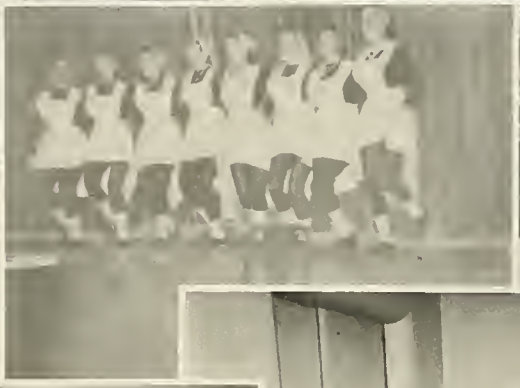
honorary class member

WILLIAM R. WATSON, M.D.

Associate in Psychiatry

His warm, humorous personality and his interest in our school has made it a sincere privilege to have Dr. Watson as an honorary member of our class. As he has emphasized to us and exemplified by his own interest in the field of psychiatry, the emotional aspects of caring for patients is and will be an important part of our nursing.

candids



NURSES STATION

DANGER
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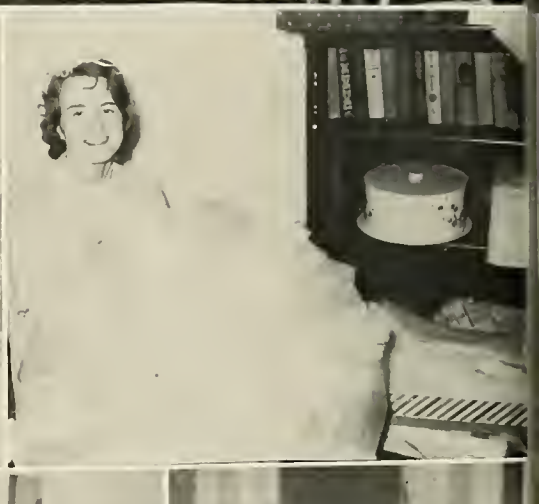
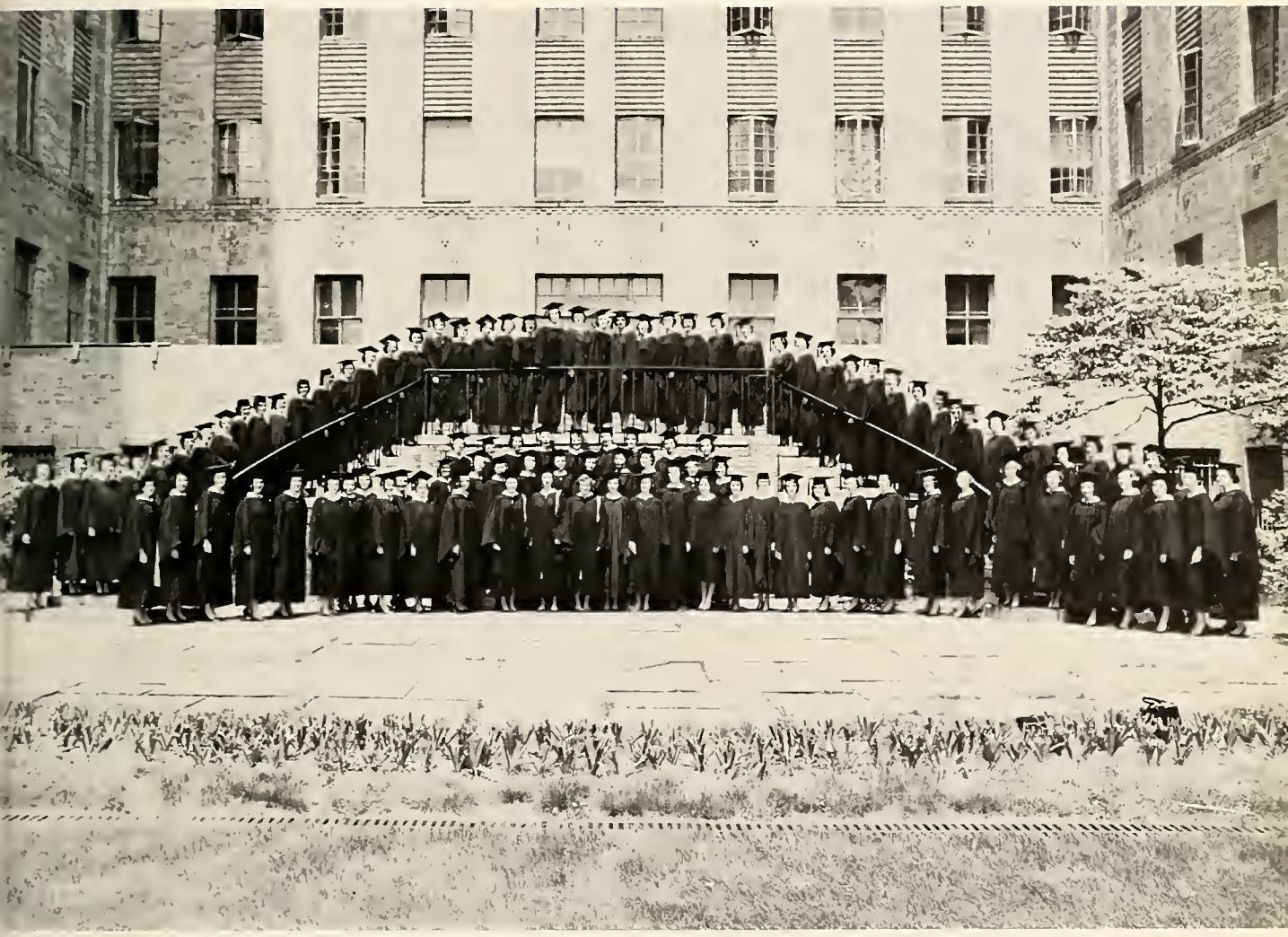


Dinner at the Pierre

For the past two years we had watched graduating classes leave for their big date at the Hotel Pierre. At last it was our turn. Dressed in our very best and very excited, we taxied through Central Park for an elegant dinner and dance at the Hotel Pierre. We thank the Alumni Association for one of the most memorable occasions of our graduation activities.

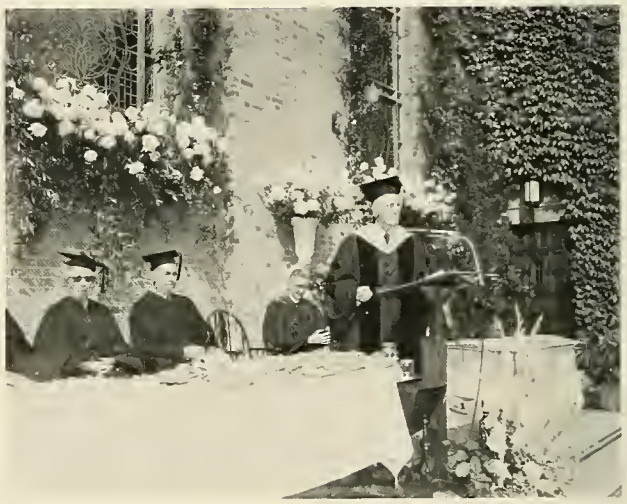
Graduation at Columbia



In academic robes we traveled the fifty-two blocks to Columbia University's campus to have our Bachelor of Science degrees conferred. How proud we were to have the degree we had worked five hard years for. The traditional exercises were impressive and how amazed we were to find our small class only a part of a very much larger whole. President Grayson Kirk's address was an inspiration to us all. June sixth will long remain in our memories.

Graduation in

At last our biggest day arrived; the one we had waited and worked for. While our families and friends watched, we marched proudly into the garden. None of us will ever forget the moment that we stepped forward to receive our diplomas and pins, nor the rush that followed the recessional to have them pinned on while



the garden

cameras clicked excitedly. The reception that followed at Maxwell Hall gave us an opportunity to greet our guests. How proud we were to show them our new pins! In future years, we will look back with excitement on this day as a symbol of the attainment of one of our most important goals in life.

the Beat years

T'was a right cool day in the heart of York
When bees like swarms came a flitting in the breeze
Each with a bundle to root in the hills
To capture those interns; who'll never defreeze
Recall the big whoopee the large sisters threw?
In the massive halls on the higher up floors
The cats we met from other far gone flats
Some chic and divine and others complete boors
They kept up apacin from morn 'til night
Then informed us beats to look sharp in our suits
We all gained weight—looked like Gibraltar at sight
It was planned—Vic Tanny's and here in cahoots
We were shown the joint through an underground pass
So the world couldn't see how bedraggled we looked
Homework began: t'was a great shock to my soul
To have my brains charred; heave all the dates I had booked
Man! were classes gone, especially gym!
To be dead weight sharks in the great unknown
And under the waves we'd review for exams
To make the grade—to pop the seeds that were sown
Wards were graven, rather spooky and bleak
With four poster cots for us to prepare
To sew in the corners, smooth out the tops
Mangle the patient—this is good care.
The signal went on—the blue gang ran out
She wanted a bright white porcelein pan
We knew she meant business, but we froze in our steps
White coats were coming; palpitations began!
They were tall, so broad: just simply divine
Big lumps of protoplasm floating in space
Oh! for a date with just one of these cats
My morale would be lifted: I'd finish the race
But back to the grind—all dirty and pooped
While graduates sit and read the "Bazaar"
Not a friend in the world, but the beatnik aides
To tell all our woes—then the depression fades
We slaved 'til our phalanges were down to stubs
Hoping for the day when we'd be noticed!
Then from the realms of the great unknown
Stripes, caps, black legs!—interns' eyes finally focused
Many decades later—we were jazzy juniors
Deserving every freedom that we got
Oh! for just two days off together
To see Ma and Pa, whose faces I've forgot
Working evenings, then nights and days
All jammed into one week's shift
Then OR where things were so calm and serene
We'd take drags of nitrous to give us a lift
The RR where all was happy and gay
OB where bambinos were born in bed
Where juniors turn white at the sight of a head
GU where tubes were all wrapped in a maze
and t'was a dark secret which one to flush
Alas, Peds—where all black terror broke loose
Where wee cats ran wild like the 5 P.M. rush
Many centuries later—we were high classed seniors
Snubbing every black cat we'd trip across
Our legs doned turned white—our feet were ivory pure
Heads began to swell—at last we were brass!
We swung a party for our remodeled legs
Arrayed black stockings all over the place
Dirty, torn shoes were carefully stored away
Wrapped in tissues—saving for public health day
We thought we were through with round pans and beds
But our third round came up on the med-surg floors
We knew that now we could handle a pan
By skipping or running not spilling a gram
We drugged forward, like aggressive cats do
To the wilds of public health with suspicion and awe
Our garments were glistening, our black and blue
We huddled and bundled for fear of the flu
The homes were real gone, the smells just divine
They all brought back memories of our home sweet flats
Roaches were kingsize, our legs were just bite size
Oh give me the wards where the clean beds are at
On to the spices of our senior drudge
With beat Ortho, ENT, Neuro and Eye
Big legs to crank—the big search for the backs
With you as staff—to slave, wither and die
The patients were cunning with tricks up their sheets
They formed a union so we'd perfume their feet
Nursee! please quickie, I really need your aide
There's a wrinkle in my pillow, and it doesn't look neat
Onward, forward to dadeo ENT
With admissions and discharges all day
On eye where the retinas were all fallen down
Neuro—where beds were remade q lh
The juiciest till last—where us cats did so well
On the real gone tests which were plain and exact
Cool scizoid and paranoid, the manic depressed
Our brains were white-washed by "How and What do you feel?"
Beat cats we've been through the world's greatest peril
We're all wearing glasses, our teeth are all dead
Our feet are encalloused, our legs full of lumps
And we've all lost weight—all in the head
Soon we'll be running down orchards of green
Stand before friends to wave the flag of freedom
It's over, it's finished, we're nurses at last!
We've proved to the world—we aren't really so dumb.

Judith Gottschall Hardgrove

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